

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-21 are pending in the present application with claims 1-9 withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 18-21. To place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice and place claims 18-21 in independent form.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 199372003500.

Dated: June 14, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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